

Message Text

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21

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EA-06 EUR-12 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

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R 120831Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

TO AMEMBASSY SAIGON

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 9283

AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L OUAGADOUGOU 0589

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, OTRA, FR, UK, XA, VS

SUBJECT: TRAVEL OF DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER TRAN VAN DON

REF: SAIGON 2493

1. DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER SHOULD BE INFORMED THAT MARCH 25 IS A HOLIDAY (MOULOU) IN UPPER VOLTA. THIS WILL GIVE HIM ONLY ONE WORK DAY IN OUAGADOUGOU.
2. THERE IS NO REASON, HOWEVER, WHY HE COULD NOT CALL ON BOTH PRESIDENT LAMIZANA AND FOREIGN MINISTER ZERBO ON MARCH 24. WE SEE NO NEED FOR ADDITIONAL CALLS.
3. AS DON UNDOUBTEDLY AWARE, UPPER VOLTA RECOGNIZES BOTH RVN AND DRV BUT NOT PRG. WE HAVE RECEIVED AN UN-CONFIRMED REPORT, HOWEVER, THAT EITHER AN OFFICIAL OF THE DRV EMBASSY IN ALGIERS OR SOME MEMBER OF PRG MISSION IN ALGIERS WAS HERE RECENTLY AND WAS RECEIVED BY FOREIGN MINISTER. ACCORDING TO THIS REPORT, PURPOSE OF VISIT WAS TO PREPARE WAY FOR PRG DELEGATION. WE ARE TRYING TO CONFIRM OR CLAIRFY ABOVE REPORT BUT SO FAR WITH SUCCESS.
4. AS A RULE, VOLTANS SHOW LITTLE INTEREST IN VIETNAM SITUATION. PRESIDENT LAMIZANA, HAVING FOUGHT

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WITH FRENCH ARMY IN INDOCHINA, IS PERHAPS MORE INTER-

ESTED IN VIENAM CONFLICT THAN MOST VOLTANS, AND
PROBABLY MORE SYMPATHETIC TO RVN CAUSE. FOREIGN
MINISTER ZERBO, ON THE CONTRARY, IS INCLINED TO FOLLOW
THE LEAD OF BOUMEDIENE AND OTHER MORE RADICAL AFRICAN
LEADERS.

5. IF DON AGREEABLE, I WOULD LIKE TO GIVE A SMALL STAG
LUNCHEON OR DINNER FOR HIM AND HIS PARTY ON SATURDAY,
MARCH 22.

6. FOR ABIDNA: PLEASE PASS GIST OF THIS MESSAGE TO
AMB LOC SINCE DON MAY ALREADY HAVE LEFT SAIGON.
GRAHAM

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NNN

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